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# **COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF FUNDING AND FINANCE OF LIBRARIES IN FEDERAL UNIVERSITY, POLYTECHNIC AND COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IN OGUN STATE.**

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## **Abstract**

Academic libraries in higher institutions of learning support the vision and mission of the institutions. Its main objective is to support the teaching learning and research activities of both students and lecturers. To achieve this objective there is a need for adequate funding and finance of the library. This study compared and analysed the funding and finance pattern of libraries in federal university, polytechnic, and college of education in Ogun state. Interview was adopted for the study and the respondents are the bursars and librarians of the respective institutions. Three federal higher educational institutions in the state were used for the study. These are Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Federal College of education, Abeokuta and, Federal Polytechnic, Ilaro. Analysis of data revealed that university and polytechnic library received statutory allocation annually, while college of education library fund itself and; university library has other means of generating fund such as over-due charges, printing and photocopy service, but polytechnic library does not have other means of generating fund. Conclusion and recommendation were made based on the findings of the study.

**Key words:** Academic libraries- Ogun State, University Library, Polytechnic Library, College of Education Library, Library-Funding and financing

## **Introduction**

The university, polytechnic and college of education libraries are commonly referred to as academic libraries. These libraries are attached to higher institution of learning to support the teaching and research activities of their institutions. According to Abubakar (2011) citing Akporhonor (2005) posited that academic libraries are libraries attached to tertiary institutions such as universities, polytechnic institutions, colleges of education, colleges of agriculture, colleges of technology and also

research institutes. Academic libraries are at the forefront of providing information services to their respective communities which comprises of students, lecturers, and researchers in order to support their teaching, learning and research needs. Scholars have emphasized on the crucial roles an academic libraries play in providing adequate sources and resources that meets the needs of their users. This makes academic libraries to be referred to as the heart or nerve centres of institutions of higher learning where all academic activities revolved. So there is need for adequate and real funding of the higher institutional libraries to enhance the effective services of the libraries.

The importance of funding in providing excellent academic services cannot be over emphasized in Nigeria tertiary institution of learning. Funding and adequate provision of finance to the libraries in Nigerian tertiary institutions of learning such as the Universities, Polytechnics and Colleges of education can be seen as the glue that holds the building, collections and staff together which allows the library to attain its goals of supporting the parent institutional objective. Despite the importance of funding and finance in the development of academic libraries, there are some factors that are hindering the adequate provision of fund to the libraries. The major factor can be viewed from the government-owned institution libraries perspectives. According to Ifijeh (2011) the academic libraries are suffering from a low budgetary allocation for education which affect the statutory allocation of the libraries. Ifijeh (2011) citing Mordi (2008) indicated that between 2000 and 2008, the Nigerian Federal Government allocated an average of only 9% of its budget to education and the libraries are funded from this meager budget. This report shows the analysis of the federal government allocation to the education sector within nine years to be discouraging. Akin and Ajayi (2008) in their study opined that the Nigerian education sector and in particular Nigerian institutional libraries are yet to recuperate from the economic down turn of the 1980s and the succeeding impact of this is the under-funding of the libraries.

This study examines the funding and financing patterns of libraries in federal universities, polytechnic and college of education libraries in Ogun State. The findings of this study will provide awareness about the challenges that may arise as a result of inconsistency in funding and financing system of federal university, polytechnic and college of education. It will educate the various stakeholders of these institutions on the appropriate system of funding and finance that will enhance the provision of adequate services and resources that supports the objectives of the various institutions.

To profile the three academic libraries selected for the study, the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) formally known as University of Agriculture Abeokuta (UNAAB) is one of the three universities of agriculture established by the Federal government of Nigeria. FUNAAB

was established on January 1, 1988 and started its operation at a mini-campus located at Isale-Igbein in the center of Abeokuta, the capital of Ogun State. The University later moved to its permanent site which is located at Alabata. It shares a common boundary with the Ogun-Oshun River Basin Development Authority on the Abeokuta-Ibadan Road. FUNAAB library (Nimbe Adedipe Library) was named in honour of the first vice-chancellor of the institution Professor Nurudeen Olorunnimbe Adedipe. The ultra-modern library building can accommodate 1000 users at a time. The total collection of books at present is 75,622 titles.

Moshood Abiola Polytechnic formally known as Ogun State Polytechnic was named in honour of late Bashorun M.K.O Abiola. The Salawu Abiola Memorial Library (SAML) previously referred to as Ogun State Polytechnic Library was established in 1979 with the parent institution at Bishop's Court Onikolobo, Abeokuta. The polytechnic later moved to its permanent building, Ojere in 1988. An ultra-modern library building donated by Bashorun M.K.O Abiola with a sitting capacity of 1000 readers; is an academic library established to meet the information needs of staff and students of the institution. It provides study facilities, extensive collections of books, periodicals and other materials with the twin benefits of internet resources and online databases.

Federal College of Education, Osiele, Abeokuta (FCEA) (formerly called Federal Advanced Teachers College) is a public institution authorized with the issuance of National Certificate in Education (NCE) to successful graduating students. It was established in 1976 in addition to three other similar Colleges that were previously in existence at Okene, Pankshin, and Yola. It is the first tertiary Institution in Ogun State. The school started at the then Abeokuta Grammar School, located at Isale-igbein, Abeokuta. The college at inception shared the site at Isale-Igbein with Abeokuta Grammar School until early January 1983, when the school was moved to its permanent site in Osiele, Abeokuta. The Federal College of Education Library was established in the year 1977 and was named Gani Belo Library, which was in honour of the pioneer Provost of the institution. The Gani Belo Library presently has three buildings, where the activities of the library are being run to meet the user's needs and satisfaction. The first building houses the Circulation, Reserve and Binding Sections. The second building houses the College Librarian office, Deputy Librarian Office, Serials Section, Reference Section, while the third building houses the Acquisition, E-Library, Cataloguing and Classification Sections.

### **Statement of Problem**

There is no doubt that no academic system can achieve its educational goals without sound library and information resources and services. These resources and services can only be achieved and provided with adequate funding and finance of the academic institutions. But it was observed that there is discrepancy in the funding and finance system of federal university, polytechnic and college of education. The discrepancy of funding among these tertiary institutions can pose challenges to their libraries thereby hindering proper provision of library and information services. This study is meant to examine and compare the funding and finance of federal university, polytechnic and college of education libraries in Ogun State.

### **Objectives of the Study**

The main objective of this study is to compare and analyse how federal university, polytechnic and college of education are being funded and financed. The specific objectives are to:

1. examine how federal university library is being funded and financed
2. know how federal polytechnic library is being fund and finance
3. examine how federal college of education is being fund and finance
4. know the effect that the funding and financing system will cause among the three institutions.

### **Research Questions**

1. What is the system of funding and finance of federal university library?
2. What is the system of funding and finance of federal polytechnic library?
3. What is the system of funding and finance of federal college of education library?
4. What effect does the funding and financing system have on the provision of an effective services and resources among the three federal institutions?

### **Methodology, Population of study and Instrument for Data Collection and Procedure**

The interview method was adopted for this study. This is because the study involves examination about knowing and getting facts from direct source which normally involve specific limited individual professionals in the field of study. The population of study comprised the University Librarian and Bursar, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, the Librarian and Bursar, Moshood Abiola Polytechnic, Abeokuta and the College Librarian and Bursar, College of Education Osiele, Abeokua, Ogun State.

A structured interview question was designed by the researchers to elicit response from the target population. Smart phone recorder was used as the device employed to store the information received from the interviewee and later documented by the interviewers to present the result of the study.

## Findings of the Study

**Table 1: Findings from Federal university library**

The University Bursar and the University Librarian were interviewed on the method of funding and finance of the university library. The table below revealed their response

S/ N	Question	University Bursar Response	University Librarian Response
1.	Do you received your allocated budget as at when due?	Yes	Yes
2.	Is there any earmark fund for the library development?	Yes	Yes
3.	What percentage of the federal government allocation is meant for the library?	Ten percent (10%)	Ten percent (10%)
4.	How often does library receive the earmark fund?	The library received it annually	The library received it at any time, it is not constant and it is not up to the agreed percentage.
5.	What are other sources of fund for the library?	TETFUND and inclusion of library fee in student school fees	TETFUND and internal generated fund in the library such as over-due charges,

			provisions of printing and photocopies for the users
6.	Is there any difference in university, college of education and polytechnic library budgetary allocation	Yes, there should be difference in their budgetary allocation as the trios are been governed and directed by different bodies. For example the university is responsible to the National University Commission (NUC), colleges of education are responsible to the NCCE and the polytechnic are responsible to special agency such as National Board for Technical Education (NBTE).	There is slight difference in the sense that the university library is much bigger than other libraries in academic institution. So there are boned to be different in fund allocation.
7.	It is realized that the library allocation is not up to the agreed percentage. Don't you think that this will hindered the effective services of the library?	No it will not. Because TETFUND has been a source of supplementing the statutory allocation for the library.	Yes, it is partially affecting the library effective services; even though there is other alternative such as TETFUND and internal generated funds to supplement the statutory allocation. These had been helpful in the development and maintenance of the library.

The federal university libraries are to be funded and finance by the federal government. This is an agreement reached upon by the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) and the federal government in a meeting held in about twenty years ago. It was agreed that ten percent (10%) of the statutory allocation should be given to the library for its staffing and resources. It was also agreed that there should be a separate bank account where library fund should be deposited. But in a matter of fact, all these are only applicable in theories as it was not strictly adhere to. This agreement was observed for some years before the federal government eventually reduces the statutory allocation for the universities in general and this lead to the reduction of the ten percent (10%) agreed library allocation. The findings also revealed that the earmark percentage is given to the library annually at any time of the year i.e. there is no specific month attached to the released of the fund. Furthermore, Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) is another means of funding of university and university libraries. The TETFUND allocation to universities is not automatic. In the sense that it has a wide range of coverage in terms of financing the educational institutions, so there is need for the institution to apply for the specific project that needed to be executed. Such project includes construction of road, health facilities, library building and facilities, school building, purchasing of school buses and so on. Another source of funding for the library by the school management is the inclusion of library fee in the student school fee payment. In some university this money is saved in a separate bank account and it is use for the maintenance of the library. The library in federal university also has means of generating fund which was used for the maintenance of the library; such means include charges or fine of over-due from the defaulters, provision of photocopies, and printing. The inconsistency in the statutory allocation is partially affecting the library effectiveness despite the fact that there is other alternative such as TETFUND and internal generated funds to supplement the statutory allocation. In some cases multiples numbers of library materials that are heavily used cannot be provided to users. Most especially materials that is very expensive.

**Table 2: Analysis of findings from the Polytechnic Library**



S/N	Questions	Polytechnic Bursar Response	Polytechnic Librarian Response
1.	Who is responsible for the polytechnic library funding?	The government is responsible for the funding of polytechnic library	It is funded from the statutory allocation by the government
2.	Do you received your allocated budget as at when due?	Yes	Yes
3.	What percentage of the government allocation is meant for the library?	It varies at times 10% and at times 15%	Not too sure of the percentage, because the money given to the library are different annually
4.	How often does library receive the earmark fund?	The budgeted allocation is released to the library annually	Library received the budgeted allocation annually, but not in constant figure.
5.	Is there any source of fund for the library	Yes, there is such as TETFUND	Yes, there are other sources of fund for the library. These include TETFUND, donations from bodies such as alumni
6.	The library has no other means of generating fund for its development and the allocation is not consistence. Don't you think this will affect the library effectiveness of	No, I don't think it will.	It is not really affecting the library services effectiveness as the library management takes pains to satisfy their users. But in other to improve the library services there is a plan to start charging students for library registration to generate

	services?		internal fund for the library maintenance and development.
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The bursar and the polytechnic librarian were interviewed respectively. It was gathered that the government were responsible for the funding of the polytechnic library. That certain percentage of the statutory allocation to the institution had been earmark for the development of the library. Although the percentage is not static or fixed it could be ten to fifteen percent of the total institutional allocation. For example Forty Million (40.000000.00) was given to the library in 2012, Fifty Million (50.000000.00) in 2013, Seventy Million (70.000000.00) in 2014, and in 2015 no money was given to the library. Other means of funding for the library are through TETFUND and alumni. The mode of TETFUND funding of the polytechnic is the same thing with that of the university. The alumni are former students of the institution they contributed financially to the development of the polytechnic and the library. The polytechnic library in contrast to university library did not have internal means of generating funds for the library. Their photocopy facility had been contracted out to a private body, who is mandated to remit certain percentage to the school account. So the library is not generating any fund for itself. But at the conclusion of the interview the polytechnic librarian made the intention known that the library is about to start generating fund through charging for student library registration.

**Table 3: Analysis of responses from the College of Education Library**

S/N	Questions	College of Education Bursar Response	College of Education Librarian Response
1.	Is there a fixed allocation from the government for college of education library?	No	No
2.	Where does the library get its funding?	Money to finance the library were generated from students' registration and TETFUND.	Money is been generated from student registration and other means such as TETFUND allocation,

			photocopies and printing
3.	How do you separate library fee from other school fees paid by the student?	The library have a separate account where the student pay in their library fee	The school have a separate account for the library where the student are asked to pay in their library fee
4.	What process will it take the library to access the library account?	The college librarian is a member of the finance committee and one of the signatory to the account. Once the library budget is prepared for a certain year it will be forwarded to the college management for approval. Once it is approved, the money will be released.	The college management gives the final approval after putting in place all the necessary documentation.
5.	Is the money generated from the students registration enough for the funding and development of the library	No it is not, but it goes a long way and with the assistance of TETFUND at least the library is meeting up to standard.	No, the money is not enough and this is the reason why the library applies for TETFUND and also run a photocopy and printing services to meet up to standard.
6.	In the university and polytechnic certain percentage of the statutory allocation from the government were given for	It is not different, though there is certain percent of the statutory allocation that was to be given to the library. But due to the inconsistency of the	Well, it is as a result of the inconsistency in the government allocation.

	the funding of the library. Why is college of education different?	money sent by the government this percentage cannot be deducted and given to the library.	
7.	Don't you think that the statutory allocation that is not given to the library is affecting the effectiveness of library services?	No it is not, because the library is fully independent of spending money in the library account. And it also receives support from TETFUND which is a government organization.	The effect of not receiving the statutory allocation did not really have a significant impact on library services. But if the money has been given, it will improve the library services

Findings from the Federal college of education revealed that there is no budgeted fund from the statutory allocation to the library. The library is being funded with the library fee paid by the students during their registration. This fee is Five Hundred Naira (500.00) for new student and (250.00) for returning student, which is paid straight to the library account. Major projects of the library are executed through the intervention of TETFUND. The library writes application to solicit for finance from TETFUND on a particular project that needs to be developed by the library, such as library building, furniture, and other library resource. The library also operates photocopy and printing services to generate fund internally. Money generated is used for the maintenance of the library.

### **Discussion of Finding**

The federal university, polytechnic and college of education library share certain things in common concerning their funding and financing with slight differences. The university library and polytechnic receive statutory allocation while the college of education is not receiving statutory allocation. The university library and college of education library generates fund internally through library registration and over-due charges. But the polytechnic library is not generating fund internally, the photocopy facility in the polytechnic library had been contracted out to a private body that remit certain percentage to the school account. The trios are supported by TETFUND through a written application, requesting

for assistant on a particular project. Once this money is released to the institution by TETFUND the institutions are expected to use the money for the purpose for which it was requested. The TETFUND officials usually visit the institutions to audit the resources purchased with the money given. All the interviewed institution agreed to the fact that the statutory allocation is not consistent and that there is every possibility to be differences in funding system of the three institutions because they are responsible to different regulation. The university is responsible to the National University Commission (NUC), colleges of education are responsible to the NCCE and the polytechnic are responsible to special agency such as National Board for Technical Education (NBTE). It is also realized by the three institutions that the libraries allocations are not enough to fund the libraries so there is need to generate money internally to support funding of the library.

The major differences among these institution was that in the university library ten percent (10%) of the statutory allocation were given as source of fund and finance for the library, which the library received annually and had never failed in a year. The student's library registrations are paid together with their school fee to the school account and the library has no access to the account unlike that of college of education. In other to further support the library development there are services such as over-due charges, photocopy and printing facilities to supplement the statutory allocation. The discretion on how to manage the money generated from these services is taken or decided by the library management, it has nothing to do with the university management. This fund is judiciously spent to manage the library resources including the building.

In the case of polytechnic library there is also a statutory allocation but it varies from year to year. For example they may receive ten percent last year, fifteen percent this year and may not receive any for next year. The polytechnic library has no source of generating internal fund for the development of the library unlike the university and college of education library. The photocopy and printing facilities are contracted out to external body that paid or remitted certain percent agreed upon to the polytechnic account. But yet the librarian is of the opinion that the inability of the library to generate internal fund had no effect on the development of the library.

The case of college of education library is different from university and polytechnic in the sense that the college library generates fund to finance itself. Through student library registration with which an account is open specifically for the library and the library alone spend the money for purchasing library resources and maintaining library building. This is in contrast to university and polytechnic library. In

the university student registration fee is paid into the university account together with school fee and the library has no access to the account. Other means of generating fund for the college library is through printing and photocopy. All the money generated in college of education library are spent towards the development of the library.

## **Conclusion**

Funding and financing is an important factor to be considered in the establishment of an academic library. Adequate and effective funding ensures the actualization of the library objectives which is tailored toward supporting the mission of the parent institution. There is no doubt that academic libraries are the life wire that enhances the achievement of academic excellence in an academic institution. This makes it an obligatory task to ensuring adequate and effective funding and financing of the library. The funding should be consistent to enable the libraries to perform its mission effectively.

## **Recommendations**

Based on the findings of this study the following recommendations are made

- The institutions managements should ensure that the mandated ten percent to university library are given without reduction, even when the statutory allocation from the government is not complete.
- Those in education sectors should not relent in their continuing advocate to the government to increase the statutory allocation of educational institutions
- The library management should work out strategies to identify other sources of generating funds for the library development and up keep
- Money generated in the name of library should be handled by the library management and spend for library development. Such money should be saved in a separate account for library use.

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## **APPENDIX: The Study Questionnaire**

### **Comparative Analysis of Funding and Finance of Federal University, Polytechnic and College of Education Libraries in Ogun State.**

Dear Interviewee,

This interview questions are designed to collect data on the above research topic. We hereby solicit for your support in being objective with our questions. All responses shall be kept very confidential and used for research purposes only.

Thank you

1. How is the library being finance?
2. Do you receive your allocated budget as and when due?
3. Is there any earmarked fund for the library development from the federal government allocation?
4. What percentage of the federal government allocation is meant for the library development?
5. How often do you give the earmarked fund to the library? Is it annually/ during NUC accreditation exercise?
6. When does management normally give preference to the library?
7. What are the sources of revenue for the library?
8. Besides Federal government allocation and TETFUND, Is there any other source of revenue for the library?
9. Is there any difference in library budgetary allocation of Universities, Polytechnics and college of education?